

Remarks.

Reconsideration of the application as hereby amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner's comments and objections and the cited references have been carefully considered by the Applicant.

New claims 11-20 have been drafted and are hereby submitted for the Examiner's approval.

Claims 11, 18 and 20 are independent.

Claims 11 and 18 are directed to a combination of features in which the injector is provided with lubricating and cleaning means for the piston which is movable on a supporting element separated from the injection body, to a retracted position with the head end thereof located at the supporting element, completely extracted from the injection chamber. Thus effective and complete cleaning and lubrication of the piston surface is provided.

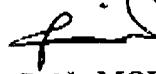
None of the cited prior art, either taken alone or in combination, teaches or suggests such feature combination.

It is also submitted that, in fact, there is no prompting in the cited prior art for the person skilled in the art to provide a molten material injector with a piston supporting element provided with both surface lubricating and cleaning means.

Accordingly, it is now believed that the application is an allowable condition and allowance thereof is respectfully solicited.

While it is believed that the amended claims properly and clearly define the present invention, applicant would be open to any suggestion or amendment the Examiner may have or propose concerning different claim phraseology which, in the Examiner's opinion, more accurately defines the present invention.

Respectfully submitted,



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Milan: December 24, 2002

\* \* \* RAPPORTO RISULTATO TRASMISSIONE ( 24.DIC.2002 15:48 ) \* \* \*

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EXHIBIT 3

|                       |                        |                      |               |
|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| # : TRASM. A LOTTI    | C : RISERVATO          | \$ : TRASFERIMENTO   | P : POLLING   |
| M : MEMORIA           | L : TRASM. DIFF.       | @ : INOLTRO          | E : ECM       |
| S : RISOLUZ. STANDARD | D : RISOL. DETTAGLIATA | F : RISOLUZIONE FINE | > : RIDUZIONE |